### ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

ORIGIN OF THE CUSTOM AND 178 OLD TIME OBSERVANCE.

Prizes in the Matrimonial Lottery-Escorts Bound Faithful Attendants for a Year-Domestic Life During the Reign of Charles II.

st. Valentine's Day, February 14, which falls this year on next Tuesday week, is one of these ancient festivals which, though one held in very high repute, has gradually degenerated into an occasion of little motor and one very lightly regarded. Its observ ances, like many of these pertaining t Christmas, Easter, and other holy days, ma be directly traced to the ancient Roman who, centuries before Christ, were accusto to hold great feast-in honor of Pan and Jun during February, from which mouth the lat ter delty derived her miditional names Februata, Februalis, and Februlia. The festivities were known as the Laperenia, and during their continuancy, among a gremany other ceremonies, small tablets bearitig the names of young women were placed in a larx and drawn out by the young men after the manner of a lottery. Each person draw ing was in honor bound to be the faithful at tendant of her who had fallen to his lot from that time until twelve months had rolled around and brought another Lupercalia and a new drawing though it not unfrequently happened that long before that time the constant association thus engendered had cause this show engagement to terminate in a rea one. The principal reason for holding this matrimonial lottery during the festivities of the Lapercalia was because they were celebrated at a time of the year when, it was popularly believed the birds/selected their mates, a tradition that still attaches to St. Valentine's Day. This notion is referred to by Shake-peare in his "Midsummer Night" Dream," act IV, seene I, where he make Theseus say.

St. Valentine is past; Begin these wood birds but to couple now? When Christianity shed its first luminou rays over the pagan hearts of ancient Rome the early fathers encountered one of their hardest tasks in endeavoring to crush our heather superstitions and in trying to induce the people to abandon heather festivities They found that the best means of acron plishing this latter end was to divert all such observances of undue solemnity while retaining all their social aspects and associating them either remotely or directly with som person or thing pertaining to the church For the festivities of the Luperenlia they sub stituted those of St. Valentine's Day, thereby retaining the date of the ancient festival am

retaining the date of the ancient restival and at the same time connecting it with thrist taning through a great saint who suffered marry-form in the third century, being formus, shall arm the lower single the church of St. Haxeles, and where a gate, now known as the Portia del Population of Land and a property called, in his Jonore, the Porta Valentini.

When it is considered that this excellent man never, thereforely or indirectly lorn any relation whatever to the observances and certemones peculiar to the day deviced to him, it seems very strainge that his name certemones peculiar to the day deviced to him, it seems very straing that the entry has a strain of the written, price of the most of the work of the most of the middle, and then if I have shown that the very wax out, but he married here in the middle, and then if I have shown that the work of the more sure. I holded an egg land and took out they will always the lower that the second of the more sure. I holded an egg land and took out they will be the sure of the control of the co

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THE HARBOR OF SAN REMO

the mighty armover, Henry Smith, had pre-pared for his valentine, the good and beauti-ful Catharine Glover. "It was a small ruly, cut into the form of a heart, transitized with a golden arrow, and was embosed in a small purse, made of links of the fluest work in steel, as if it had been designed for a hauberk to a king. "Round the verge of the purse were these words:

This device had caused the armorer some thought, and he was much pleased with his war compesition, because it seemed to imply hat his skill could defend all hearts, saving

that his skill could defend all hearts, saving his own.

In many parts of England and Scotland it is still customary, as it has been for many centuries, for young men and women to regard as their valenthie the first person of the opposite sex whom their eyes behold on the morning of St. Valentine's day, and they have the right to claim the said valentine with a kis, which he or she is in honor bound to accord without resistance or remoustratice of any kind. Scott, in his novel of "The Fair Maid of Perth, already quotest, beautifully describes the minimer in which the peerless Catharine Glover thus claimed the hold armorer, Henry Smith, as her valentine, after he had saved her from dishonor by his great valor and strength, or St. Valentine's Eve. The English poet Gay also alludes to this custom as follows:

"Last Valentine, the day when bliris of kind

to this custom as follows:

Last Valentine, the day when birds of kind floer parameters with minual chirplings find, early rose—just at the break of day—lefter the sun had chased the stars away; the fit went, amid the morning few, to milk my kine for an shauld housewives do hee first 1 spicel—and the first swain we see, a spite of fortune, shall our true love be."

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

HOW MR. LAMAR REHEARSED HIS PAMOUS CALHOUN ORATION.

Fwo Absent-Minded Statesmen Early Disappointments of Mr. Vilas - A Senatorial Contest Developing.

Washington Correspondence Globe-Democrat,

Mr. Justice Lamar's intimates are wonder ing whom he will get to talk his decisions over with. It has always been Mr. Lamar's custom to rehearse his speeches to somebody in whose judgment he has confidence, and get private criticism previous to the delivery in public. The last time he had occasion to do this was just before his address at the un-yelling of the Calhoun monument, last summer. He called at the room of a Southern Senator who never makes a speech himself, but is a fine critic. "I want you to take a walk with me,

Matt." the then Secretary said. The senator guessed what was wanted, and taking his hat, went with him. Mr. Lamar put his left hand upon his friend's arm, leaving his right free for gesticulation, and they started out Fourteenth street. The Secretary

put in nomination for some office, and the proposition went through with a whose.

What was the astonishment of the convention to see the senior Vilus rise in this place, return thanks, and declare that he would make the most efficient canvass in his power. For a few moments it seemed as if everybody was paralized. Then an ex-soldier got up and said stammeringly that he believed the convention had intended to mominate William F. Vilas, jr. This brought the old gentleman to his feet and he said it would be time enough for "Bill" when he was gone, and if any Vilas was going to have that office he was.

he was.

Run he did, not only that time, but several times afterwards. Whenever the friends of the younger Vilas would get together and agree to put him forward the old man would turn up as a candidate for that or some other office and would spoil the slate.

If William F. Vilas, sr., had lived, Staughter says, he would certainly have beat the general for the Chicago convention and would have kept him out of the Cabinet.

THE NORTH STATE SENATORSHIP.

THE NORTH STATE SENATORSHIP The Senatorial campaign is opening in a lively manner in North Carolina. County conventions come on in May, and the great issue down there is, Shall Gen, Ransom have another term? He is now serving his third, having entered the Senate in 1872. By an unwritten law in the Old North State the having entered the Senate in 1872. By an unwritten law in the Old North State the cast claims one Senator and the west the other. The west has Zeb Vance, and the eastern countiles are being canvassed on the idea that they are not properly represented, because Ransom is from the Virginia border. The two prominent candidates against Ransom are ex-Congressman Alfred Waddell, of Wilmington, and ex-towernor Jarvis, of Greenville. Jarvis was given the Brazil mission shortly after the imaggaration of Mr. Cleveland, but he has come back on leave, and is very willing to be a Senatorial candidate, much to the chargin of Ransom's friends, who claim that this is base ingratitude. There is being stirred up some opposition to Ransom in Western North Carolina, and this prompts the suspicion among his friends that Vance is not 'toting fair' with his colleague. Ex-Congressman Dowd, who was made collector of the Charlotte district and then lost his place by the change of districts, is also against Ransom. All the indications point to a bitter personal contest over the Senatorship, which will better the chances of the opposition to select asteneral Ransom's successor a man who is not a Democrat.

W. B. S.

# A SAFE AND PROFITABLE INVESTMENT!

A Stock Capable of Paying for the Year 1888,

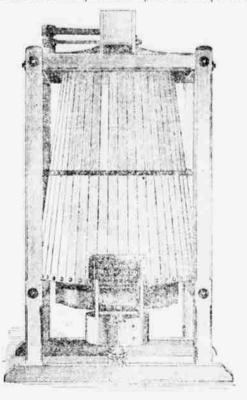
# DIVIDEND OF TEN TO TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

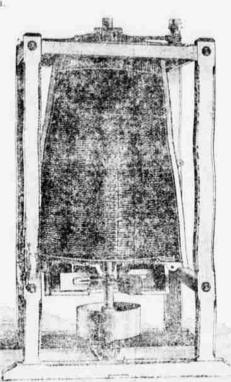
Selling for \$50 per Share, the Par Value being \$100.

There is on every ton of Cotton Seed 200 pounds of cotton which the cotton gins can not remove, and which is now thrown away. A machine that can remove this cotton will save 200 pounds worth \$4, and will double the value of the Cotton Seed for oil purposes. As the annual production of Cotton Seed is about three and one-half million tons, the great value of such a machine can readily be seen. This being the case, no one can doubt that there will be a large demand for a machine of this kind.

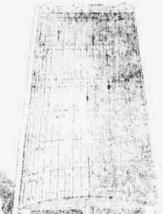
### The Crawford Cotton-Seed Cleaner

Does just what we have described, and does it at an expense of only \$1. That is, it will save \$4 worth of cotton which is now thrown away, and will double the value of a ton of Cotton Seed at an expense of One Dollar. These are facts which we are proving every day by the use of the machines in practical operation on plantations in the South.











The following named gentlemen have seen the machine in practical operation, and to any of whom we can refer:

Gen, C. M. Shelley, Fourth Auditor, Treasury. Gen. W. S. Rosecrans, Register, Treasury. Gen. B. W. Green, Treasury Degartment, Col. L. N. R. Dawson, Educational Bureau. Maj. S. A. Jonas, Interior Department. Prof. E. V. Riley, U. S. Ent.

W. H. Lamar, Esq. Some of these gentlemen are stockholders in the company which owns the machine, but many of them have no interest in it

whatever except their general interest in the agricultural development of the Southern States.

Hon. A. C. Davidson, of Alabama. Hon, P. T. Glass, of Tennessee. Gen. M. C. Meigs, Supervising Architect, Pension Building Col. John N. Macomb, U. S. A. Hon, N. C. Blanchard, of Louisiana,

F. O. McCleary, Esq.

This valuable machine is the property of the

# American Cotton-Seed Company,

And is fully protected by patents procured with a full appreciation of the value of the invention and importance of the industry to be developed by its use. The machine has been thoroughly tested on a practical scale and has been carefully examined by expert mechanics, and is in every way an assured and undoubted success.

The policy of the company is to sell the machines at a price that will pay the expense of manufacture and the expenses necessary in its introduction, and in addition to this price it demands a royalty of One Dollar on each ton of seed cleaned by the machine. The planter gladly pays the price of the machine and the royalty, as by its use he saves \$4 worth of cotton from each ton of seed, and increases the value of his cotton seed 100 per cent.

While it is profitable to the planter to use the machine, it is also profitable to the company to have him use it. The capacity of the machine is fully 5 tons per day, and each machine will, therefore, earn in royalties at least \$500 every season. The company have machines now in operation that are earning this royalty every day.

The machines referred to are in operation on the plantations of the Calhoun Land Company, in Arkansas, and to whom we Two hundred machines in use will earn one hundred thousand dollars every year. This would enable the company to pay a 10

per cent, dividend on its capital stock. The company expect to have fully 500 machines in operation for the crop of 1888, and will increase the number as fast as possible, as each machine sold increases the income of the company 8500 per year. The number of machines which the company have orders for and have in operation exceeds 50 at the present time.

## American Cotton-Seed Company,

the owner of this machine, was organized under the laws of New Jersey and under the direct supervision of Mr. Robert L. Harrison, of New York, attorney-at-law, who is a director of the company as well as its counselor. As there may be some who do not know of the character and professional standing of Mr. Harrison, any of the following-named gentlemen in Washington can be referred to:

Hon. Randolph Tucker, Hon. John W. Daniel. Linden Kent, Esq., Henry Wise Garnett, Esq.,

John Selden, Esq., Hon. Bourke Cochran, Hon. Isidor Raynor.

The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000, divided into 10,000 shares of \$100 each. The stock is full paid and non-assessable. For the purpose of securing capital for manufacturing purposes the company is offering a limited number of its shares of stock at \$50 per share, the par value being \$100. Parties subscribing for this stock can do so with the full assurance that the affairs of the company are in good hands, and will be well and economically conducted, and that they are securing a stock from which all doubt has been eliminated, and one that will give good returns for the investment, and will increase in value each year. The management commands the confidence of the people in New York who know them, as evidenced by numbering among its stockholders and others who are interested such men as Mr. R. L. Edwards, president of the Bank of the State of New York; Mr. F. W. Dunton, cashier of the Corbin Banking Co.: Mr. A. W. Peters, chairman of the Consolidated Stock Exchange, who is also a director of the company, as well as its secretary and treasurer. The price of the stock will be increased as soon as the company shall have secured capital suffi cient to build the first 200 machines, and we have every reason to believe this point will be reached in a very few days.

The readers of this advertisement must bear in mind that the statements made herein are correct, and we stand ready to prove them. Parties wishing further information or to subscribe for stock can call upon

### MR. R. H. WILES,

At the Office of W. H. Lamar, Esq., Sun Building, F St., Washington, D. C.